

Who Cares What Happens in Boxing Ring?

with phantom force and landing with the thud of a creampuff" Maine. Congressmen and state

abolish or control professional

Observers pointed out that



Poland Spring, Me. - (RNS) - Sonny Liston, key figure in the most controversial heavyweight championship fight in history, visits with an old

draft" 17 and 18-year-old boy this year. At least one parent who already has a boy in the big leagues threatens legal action if a team he does not approve of "drafts" his other youngsters: Other observers ask: What teen-aged boy, just out of high school, will be able to reject the "draft" of a glam. orous <u>major league</u> team and go on to college?

Mr. Gensel, whose-"jazz ministry" gives him access to the sports crowd, predicts that the Clay-Liston mess may well prod the U.S. public to take steps to provide safeguards in all forms of sport.

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Boxing should be first, he holds, and the incidents that followed the championship bout would indicate the validity of his criticism. After the first bout between Liston and Clay, it was discovered that a contract actually made Liston Clay's "employer." Live

Liston, although he periodically turned to Jesuit priests in Denver, Colo., for guidance, was "in trouble" with police authorities throughout his tenure as champion. His previous record included 19 arrests, imprisonment for armed robberv and beating up a patrolman. His was a poor "image" for the sport.

Clay, who has taken the name of "Muhammad Ali," has been active, in a promotional sense, in the cause of the Black Muslims, a racist group of extremists rejected by American Negro civil rights organizations, Although originally financed and

aided by a Southern group of businessmen, his activities now are reported to be controlled

friend, Father Alois J. Stevens, pastor of St. Lawrence's church, Monett, Mo. Father Stevens, who went to Lewiston, Me., to watch Liston's ill-fated bout with champion Cassius Clay, is credited with introducing Liston to boxing - at a time when the onetime champion was famed only as a jailhird.

The fight was banned in Bos-ton, and moved to sleepy little they don't care how the public theology department of the Uni-torian when Maine efford ays title at Brighton High Lewiston when Maine offered may be defrauded. We're more versity of Notre Dame, has con School field. Aquinas piled up a haven for it. Fight night be concerned about examining demned prizefighting as against Basketball, fast becoming 19 points to capture the Legion gan with a Broadway star pro-horses before they race than the Fifth Commandment, which Relays for the third time in viding new words to the Na-boxers before they box." by the Muslims. America's No. 1 competive sport, owes its beginnings in This story is told by Milton

oneself or another, but "injur-1891 to a Presbyterian minister, Gross of the New York Post, 3-points for runner-up position tionwide radio hookup, he for A sometime fight fan who ing another unjustly or com Dr. James Naismith. He nailed noted for long campaigning, for,

'm a watcher with mixed feel. fighting if the Church declar-ngs." The Clay-Liston debacle, Mr. was negative; he continued his hover the continue his boys than any other agencies in ness men and gangsters." When the world. In New York's arch- Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) Government control of boxing was urged several years ago are (almost 2000 tooms) cars (almost 2000 tooms) operates, Mr. Gross said, he

the finish of Liston as a boxer a way that it will be more churchman, Dr. Oscar A. Benworks surrounded by the Black Muslims. nebedy knew for sure how long a way that it will be more churchman, Dr. Oscar A. Ben-ing the season, method way that it will be more son, onetime-president of the ing the season. ". . . a man and his son stopformer Augustana Lutheran Yet basketball, particularly ped Cassius for an autograph,

was certain was that the time-keeper's estimate of "1 minute" was as much as a minute off. Amid the uproar, a Lutheran minister in New York, a clergy-man with a "different type" of Church. He called for an end the college brand, periodically wrote Mr. Gross. "Clay signed managers and h a n d le r s, and gambling device hard to detect. side in public, knocked the built in controls that would benefit both athlete and public. To "shave points" players need man's hand away. 'Muhammad only win — not loose — by Ali doesn't shake white hands,'

points than

the Rahamann said. response of the nation's sports on deaths in the ring, once said) The general Protestant stand fans. Said the Rev. John Gen-that "people are asking again on prizefighting may be reflect-This means that they are hit fans. Said the Rev. John Gen-ting speeds up to 115 m.p.h. on America minister: "The Clay-the track which is at least 50 Liston farce points to the lick death." It held that no official ations which have long discour-per cent curves, 23121 1114 Held that mo official ations which have long discour-need for controls." The principles of the na-promote the principles of the na-rest curves, 23121 1114 Held that mo official ations which have long discour-need for controls." The principles of the na-promote the principles of the na-promote the sport. It is also point odds indicate. Thus the

thing so "crass and incredible'

Vatican Radio, commenting

demning nature.

Tax Examination for those describe the spin find out Liston's true age or line dia manager, the distant the public's indignation of the services which services western but Beschall of Dis-when youth. The great American game," but a manager, "but the states. "It is also on the states." The nation's press is no help in this situation, either; few papers fail to publish the point situation, either; few papers fail to publish the point investigations of the same of the sport. It is also in this situation, either; few papers fail to publish the point situation, either; few papers fail to publish the point situation, either; few papers fail to publish the point investigations of the sport. Most facilitating the work of the sport state and Congressional investigations of the sport. America, the national Catholic weekly, three years ago empha-line and as until the catholic in sports program, is a transient thing, that is a transient them." America of line and gambling public. The state of boxing however, but Beschall will be linked to elements barred from boxing. "The states." The state of boxing by Congress on the states." many as a threat to America's killed off local or farm-system efficiency examinations.

test will establish proof of comments barred from boxing. petence which is required of tax clients at all levels of pro-cedure before the Service. Ex-mannation fee is \$25. "It indicated to me," said Mr. "It indicated to me," said Mr. C.SS.R., former professor of moral theology at the Catholic players added no luster to ath-moral theology at the Catholic players added no luster to ath-reached into the colleges and healize that public indignation the former professor of America. "It indicated to me," said Mr. "It indicate

moral theology at the Catholic players added no luster to ath-University of America, Wash-letics. The disciplinary action ington, D.C., long ago caution-taken against colleges for "re-ed that boxing was "difficult cruiting" practices — cars, cash to reconcile with Catholic prin-under the table to high school ciples." Father George R. Bern-stars — would denote a general ciples." Father George R. Bern-stars — would denote a general

scouts has badgered and pester- ture named a committee to ed young college athletes into clean up the sports, to submit leaving school to enter pro ball. recommendations. The committee came up with little to

to the high schools — legal or ning out of money, it wrote its not, big league baseball will report.

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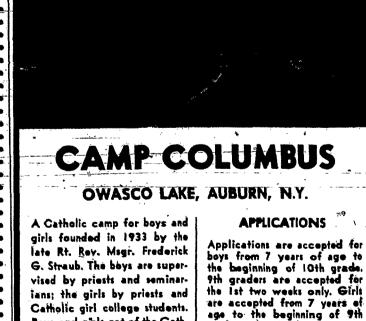
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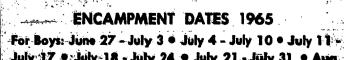
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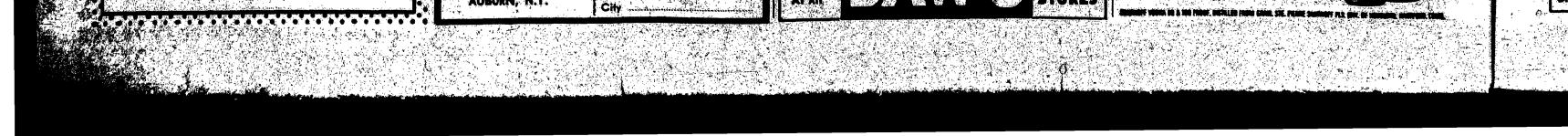
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